

"GLORY TO GOD IN THE HIGHEST, AND ON EARTH PEACE, GOODWILL TOWARD MEN." – LUKE 2:14

## ANNUNCIATION TO THE SHEPHERDS

• "Do not be afraid, for behold, I bring you good tidings of great joy which will be to all people. 11 For there is born to you this day in the city of David a Savior, who is Christ the Lord. 12 And this will be the sign to you: You will find a Babe wrapped in swaddling cloths, lying in a manger." 13 And suddenly there was with the angel a multitude of the heavenly host praising God and saying: 14 "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men!" (Lk. 2:10-14)

### THE INCARNATION

### A Gift of Peace

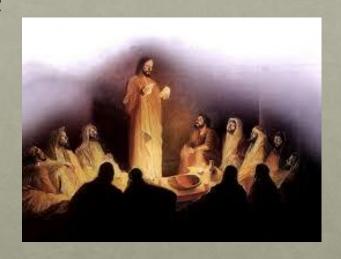
# PEACE IS OFFERED TO ALL

- Not everyone will enjoy His peace
- "Martha, Martha, you are worried and troubled about many things." (Lk. 10:41)
- "For indeed, when we came to Macedonia, our bodies had no rest, but we were troubled on every side. Outside were conflicts, inside were fears." (2 Cor. 7:5)
- "But the wicked are like the troubled sea, When it cannot rest, Whose waters cast up mire and dirt. 21 "There is no peace," Says my God, "for the wicked." (Is. 57:20-21)

# THE PEACE THAT CHRIST OFFERS IS...

- His own
  - "Peace I leave with you, My peace I give to you; not as the world gives do I give to you."

    (Jn. 14:27)
- For everyone who desires it from Him
  - "Glory to God in the highest, And on earth peace, goodwill toward men." (Lk. 2:14)



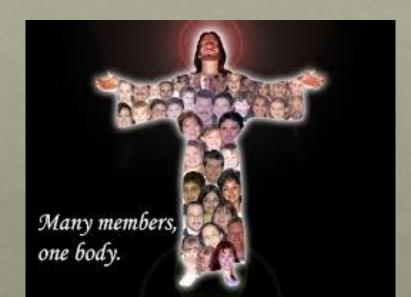
### RESTORED PEACE: GOD

- Sin alienates you from God
- "For He Himself is our peace, who has made both one, and has broken down the middle wall of separation, 15 having abolished in His flesh the enmity, that is, the law of commandments contained in ordinances, so as to create in Himself one new man from the two, thus making peace, 16 and that He might reconcile them both to God in one body through the cross, thereby putting to death the enmity. 17 And He came and preached peace to you who were afar off and to those who were near. 18 For through Him we both have access by one Spirit to the Father."

(Eph. 2:14-18)

## RESTORED PEACE: HUMANITY

- 1 Cor. 12
  - 13 For by one Spirit we were all baptized into one body...
  - 20 But now indeed there are many members, yet one body.
  - 27 Now you are the body of Christ, and members individually.



#### RESTORED PEACE: SELF

- According to the National Institute of Mental Health (NIMH) more than 23 million people suffer from anxiety disorders
- "And which of you by worrying can add one cubit to his stature?" (Lk. 12:25)



#### RESTORED PEACE: SELF

#### • He can provide

• "If then God so clothes the grass, which today is in the field and tomorrow is thrown into the oven, how much more will He clothe you, O you of little faith." (Lk. 12:28)

#### He knows what you need

- "And do not seek what you should eat or what you should drink, nor have an anxious mind. 30 For all these things the nations of the world seek after, and your Father knows that you need these things." (Lk. 12:29-30)
- All things from God are good
  - "And we know that all things work together for good to those who love God..." (Rom. 8:28)

### CONCLUSION

- 4 Principles of Peace
  - 1. True lasting peace can only be acquired through Christ.
  - 2. Living in peace is a choice
  - 3. If peace is not welcomed it will return to its source
    - "But whatever house you enter, first say, 'Peace to this house.' 6 And if a son of peace is there, your peace will rest on it; if not, it will return to you." (Lk. 10:5-6)
  - 4. You are only responsible for your part
    - "If it is possible, as much as depends on you, live peaceably with all men." (Rom. 12:18)



Now may the Lord of peace Himself give you peace always in every way. The Lord be with you all." (2 Thes. 3:16)